

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1 – 4 and 6 – 9 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 8 and 9 have been amended. Claim 5 is cancelled. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced into the application by the amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 5, 6 and 9 contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 1 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of claim 5 and claims 6 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The amendment to claim 8 obviates the rejection under §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 – 4, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0185553 to Benstead.

Claim 1, has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Claims 6 and 9, which were also indicated as being allowable, have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 – 4 and 7 – 8 are dependent upon claim 1,

and are therefore likewise allowable. Thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is rendered moot in view of the above amendments.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully requested

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1 – 4 and 6 – 9, only contains allowed claims and therefore a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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